

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 JUSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 EB-11 USIA-15

SS-15 NSC-10 SCI-06 H-03 PRS-01 PA-03 RSR-01 PM-07

ACDA-19 /146 W

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R 021748Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2292

INFO AMCONSUL AUCKLAND

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

COMDT GOAST GUARD

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS/PARM, PFOR, NZ, FR

SUBJECT: FRI

REF: PARIS 20821

1. QUAI SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS OFFICER CURIEN GAVE EMBOFF AUGUST 2 FOLLOWING "SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION" ON CREW OF THE FRI.

2. JULY 18, SKIPPER DAVID MOODIE AND HIS CREW ARRIVED FROM MURUROA AT ISLAND OF HAO AFTERNOON JULY 19. THEY WERE BILLITED AT "CLUB NAUTIQUE." MOODIE AND CREWMATES HAD ALREADY STARTED HUNGER STRIKE. FRENCH AUTHORITIES TOLD THEM THEY WOULD BE FREE TO MOVE AROUND THE ISLAND AND TO TELEPHONE THE OUTSIDE WORLD. FRENCH TOLD MOODIE THAT FRI WOULD BE RETURNED TO HIM

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"AS SOON AS POSSIBLE."

3. JULY 22. AS MOODIE AND CREWMATES CONTINUED HUNGER STRIKE, FRENCH ARMED FORCES MINISTRY SECSTATE ACHILLE-FOULD PROPOSED THAT MOODIE AND CREW RETURN TO MURUROA TO SEE THE FRI AND HAVE IT TOWED TO HAO, PROVIDED MOODIE WOULD PROMISE NOT TO RE-ENTER THE 72-MILE SECURITY ZONE. MOODIE REFUSED, SAID IT WAS HIS INTENTION TO RE-ENTER SECURITY ZONE, AND CONTINUED HIS HUNGER STRIKE.

4. JULY 24. GOF OFFICIALS AGREED IN WASHINGTON, PARIS AND HAO TO ARRANGE TELEPHONE CALL BETWEEN DAVID MOODIE AND HIS FATHER, MR. GORDON MOODIE, IN WASHINGTON.

5. JULY 26. FOR "REASONS OF HEALTH", DAVID MOODIE AND HIS FEMALE COMPANION WERE MOVED FROM HAO TO HOSPITAL IN PAPEETE. (THIS MOVE MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO EFFECT TELEPHONE CONNECTION BETWEEN MOODIE AND HIS FATHER.)

6. JULY 28. HAVING FLOWN TO TAHITI, GORDON MOODIE DISCUSSED WITH GOVERNOR PIERRE ANGELI THE SITUATION CONFRONTING CREW OF THE FRI. GOVERNOR ANGELI PROMISED RETURN OF THE YACHT, THIS TIME ON SOLE CONDITION THAT CREW MEMBERS STOP THEIR HUNGER STRIKE AND BE IN ADEQUATE PHYSICAL CONDITION TO RESUME SAILING ON HIGH SEAS. (CURIEN CALLED ATTENTION TO "LIBERALIZATION" OF FRENCH POSITION AS ARTICULATED BY ANGELI FROM EARLIER PROPOSITION PUT FORWARD BY ACHILLE-FOULD.) U.S. CONSULAR OFFICER, MISS FOWLER, ARRIVED AT PAPEETE TO TAKE CHARGE OF CONSULAR DUTIES RELATED TO DEATH OF AMERICANS IN PANAM CRASH OF JULY 22. SHE WAS INFORMED OF GOVERNOR ANGELI'S PROMISE.

7. JULY 30. GOVERNOR ANGELI RENEWED OFFER TO RETURN DAVID MOODIE TO THE FRI DURING CONVERSATION WITH MISS FOWLER. GORDON MOODIE AND MISS FOWLER MET ANGELI'S CHEF DE CABINET, M CASTELLANI, WHO REITERATED CREW COULD BE TRANSPORTED TO MURURO TO RE-ACQUIRE THE FRI.

8. JULY 31. DAVID MOODIE AGREED TO LEAVE PAPEETE, FLY TO HAO TO PICK UP REMAINING CREW MEMBERS, AND RETURN TO MURUROA.

9. AUGUST 2. DAVID MOODIE AND OTHER MEMBERS OF CREW PRE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARIED TO LEAVE PAPEETE AT 8:00 A.M. LOCAL, FOR FLIGHT TO HAO AND MURUROA. GORDON MOODIE STATED HIS SATISFACTION WITH ATTITUDE OF FRENCH AUTHORITIES ON "FRI AFFAIR" AND SAID HE WOULD REMAIN IN TAHITI FOR TIME BEING AS TOURIST. U.S. CONSULAR OFFICER, MISS FOWLER, ALSO STATED "SATISFACTION" WITH FRENCH ATTITUDE IN THIS MATTER AND INDICATED SHE WOULD REMAIN IN PAPEETE TO CARRY ON HER MISSION IN CONNECTION WITH PANAM CRASH.

STONE

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